

Amendment and Response
U.S. Serial No. 10/608,809
Filed: June 27, 2003
Attorney Docket No: 210-609INT

REMARKS

Claims 37-48 were presented at the time the application was filed. New claims 49-59 have been amended into the application at the suggestion of Examiner Spitzer. Upon entry of the new claims, six (6) independent claims and twenty-three (23) total claims will be pending in the application, for which filing fees have been paid.

Examiner Spitzer has indicated that the claim modifier previously used with claims 37-48 was incorrectly given in the paper filed on February 22, 2005 as (Original) when the correct modifier is (Previously Presented). Claims 37-48 are corrected as to the proper modifier used in this paper. No change in scope or in claim language of any of claims 37-48 has taken place as compared to their presentation in the previously filed paper.

Examiner Spitzer indicated that the correct modifier (New) was used with regard to new claims 49-59. No change in scope or in claim language of any of claims 49-59 has taken place as compared to their presentation in the paper filed on February 22, 2005.

Applicants respectfully request that the pages of claims presented herein be substituted for the pages of claims presented in the paper filed on February 22, 2005. The modifiers will then be proper.

The Examiner has pointed out that the pages of Drawing submitted with the previous paper were not properly identified at their top edge. Appended hereto is a sheet of drawing with the term "Annotated Sheet" thereon in which a copy of Fig. 15 with two instances of numeral 44 circled in red is presented. Also appended hereto is a sheet of drawing with the term "Replacement Sheet" thereon in which a copy of Fig. 15 lacking numerals 44 is presented.

Applicants believe that these sheets of claims and sheets of drawing bring the Amendment previously filed into compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the application be reconsidered and that the rejections of Claims 37-48 be withdrawn. Applicants submit that Claims 37-48 and newly added Claims 49-59 are now in proper condition for allowance, and request the issuance of a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Applicants respectfully request that, in the event that any claim is deemed allowable, that the interference with United States Patent No. 6,413,298 requested at the time of filing the present application be declared.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,
WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

By:


Joseph B. Milstein, Ph. D., Reg. No. 42,897
101 South Salina Street, 4th Floor
Syracuse, NY 13202
Telephone: (315) 425-9000
Facsimile: (315) 425-9114

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JBM

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